

Connecticut Youth Suicide Prevention Initiative (CYSPI) Advisory Sub-Committee Meeting Minutes

June 19, 2007
United Way
Wethersfield, CT
8:30 AM – 10:00 AM

In Attendance: Allison Case, Project Coordinator, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS); Andrea Duarte, Project Director, DMHAS; Amy James, Research Assistant, University of CT Health Center (UCHC); Sue Moores, United Way of CT; Allyson Nadeau, CT Behavioral Health Partnership; Judith Stonger, CT Clearinghouse; Bill Turek, State Department of Education (SDE)

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Membership

As project has progressed, sub-committee membership has largely shifted to sub-recipient agencies and organizations. Andrea will address with DeAnna Lia and the YSAB for consideration in line with July 1 start of state fiscal year/year 2 of project.

Hartford Pilot: St. Francis Hospital & Medical Center and Quirk Middle School

- Spanish versions of consent forms completed.
- St. Francis has submitted final modifications to model database to UCHC and will begin utilizing the electronic system later this summer. They are currently keeping paper records on youth with parental consent to be entered into the system at a later date.

High School Component: CT Technical High School System (CTHSS) & Trumbull High School

- DMHAS, CTHSS and UCHC planning meeting held 5/31. Rollout schedule set. All students with active parental consent will get SOS (Signs of Suicide) and randomly selected participants with active parental consent will be solicited to participate in the evaluation.
- SMH will conduct a half-day training for CTHSS and Trumbull staff 8/29.
- CTHSS must still decide how SOS program active consent will be obtained– at beginning of school year or over the summer with HIV program passive consent. Trumbull will obtain SOS consent over the summer with HIV program active consent.
- CTHSS and Trumbull will create a link from the DMHAS CYSPI website to the CTHSS page.

College Component: CT State University System (CSU)

- CSU contract was recently divided into four from one per new request from CSU Attorney General, more detailed as well. Currently at CSU AG's office for review.
- Meeting scheduled 7/6 to explore how community crisis services may support schools and determine coverage gaps. Participants = DMHAS, UCHC & CSU

- Tim Corbitt at CCSU is interested in piloting a process that would increase collaboration among Central, New Britain General Hospital and Wheeler Clinic with DMHAS support. Post-event students are “supposed to” be seen by counseling center staff before returning to class, but there is no method for the Counseling Center to be informed when incidences occur. Pilot would hope to address this issue.

Community Campaign: Wheeler Clinic

- Kick-off activities to be discussed and application to be refined at next meeting. RFP will be released during National Suicide Prevention Week 9/9-9/15.

Evaluation: University of CT Health Center (UCHC)

- IRB continuation approval received
- Waiting for estimate from sub-contracted database developer regarding changes to St. Francis and CSU databases. Both expected to go live in July.
- BMC (BioMed Central) Public Health has accepted a UCHC manuscript evaluating SOS for publication. This is a peer-reviewed, research-only journal.
- CTHSS and Trumbull data will be handled independently. In Trumbull, four versions of the pre-test will be created (one complete and three unique truncated) in order to study assessment reactivity. All students will complete the same post-test.
- CTHSS – Amy will provide Bill with a school list by 6/22 and he will provide the fall student roster for randomization by 7/10. UCHC will over sample as a 10-12% shift in enrollment is expected.
- Hard copies of ORC Macro International training evaluation materials expected shortly.

Training Component: United Way of CT and Wheeler Clinic

- Framework for United Way ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training) trainings established. 8 ASIST trainings (4 per year) and one Training for Trainers (T4T) spring '09 will be offered. Attendance at basic training will be a pre-requisite for the TOT and grant will support 8 scholarships. TOT application may require applicant to provide an agency letter of support/commitment to provide subsequent training.
- Planning for Wheeler Assessing and Managing Suicide Risk (AMSR): Core Competencies for Mental Health Professionals clinical training for Masters and Ph.D. level clinicians continues. AMSR Workbook distributed for review during meeting. First session scheduled for 10/9. Three additional sessions are intended for 1/08, 8-10/08, and 1/09. Andrea spoke with David Litts, Associate Director of Prevention Practice at the National Suicide Prevention Resource Center (SPRC) regarding the upcoming revision of the curriculum, which will incorporate working with adolescents and the option of hosting an AMSR Training for Trainers (TOT).
- AMSR TOT- Andrea is researching the possibility of co-hosting a TOT with the New York State Office of Mental Health in spring '09. Cost to attend 3-day TOT is \$950 per person, approximately \$15-17K to host. Hosting would allow greater dissemination and sustainability, as it would build a statewide network of trained professionals. Change would require Wheeler's 08-09 funds to be re-distributed. Additional monies may be available from SDE, Department of Children and Families

and DMHAS-Mental Health Transformation grant. Andrea will contact other potential funding sources and will hold further discussions with NY contact and meet with Wheeler to discuss options.

Upcoming Meetings

Thursday, July 26 – 9:00 to 10:30 AM * note new time

Tuesday, August 21 - 9:00 to 10:30 AM

Tuesday, October 16 - 9:00 to 10:30 AM

Tuesday, December 18 - 9:00 to 10:30 AM

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Handouts: May 15 Meeting Minutes, National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS) and Suicide Fact Sheet